

### EXCITEMENT IN BALTIMORE.

Considerable excitement prevailed last evening in the central part of the city in consequence of a report which was widely circulated to the effect that a considerable body of Confederate cavalry had appeared at Westminster, and upon observing a force of the 1st Delaware cavalry there, vigorously attacked and drove them within seven miles of this city.

"About the hour of four in the afternoon the Federal scouts reported a Confederate force advancing on Westminster, whereupon the Federals, consisting of a part of the 1st regiment of Delaware cavalry, were immediately placed in position, when in the course of a half-hour the Confederates were observed advancing rapidly in two different directions.—Soon as they were within musket shot the Federal force made a charge, and drove them back to the distance of nearly a mile. A portion of the Delaware cavalry however became detached from the main body, and perceiving which the Confederates made a desperate charge and compelled them to retreat.

The pursuit was followed on the Hookstown road to within seven miles of the city, when the Confederates halted and then galloped up the road. What has been the fate of the rest of the command, numbering about one hundred, is not known. Some of them are known to have been killed or wounded, and the rest made prisoners. Lieutenant Reed states that he had two horses shot from under him.

Of one hundred and ten men belonging to the Delaware command, which participated in the fight, but seven had reported themselves last night. One of the captains was seen to fall from his horse near the Pikesville Arsenal, and it was supposed he was killed. The Confederates, upon charging the Federals, raised the cry of "Gilmore," "Go in Harry Gilmore," from which it is supposed that the Confederates were lead by Captain Harry Gilmore. It was reported that the force had possession of the Pikesville Arsenal, which is, however, an empty building."

At eleven o'clock last night the city was thrown into great excitement by the sounding of the signal by the fire bells agreed upon by General Schenck, to call the Union Leagues to arms for the defence of the barricades. The signal corps stationed on the different roads had fired rockets, announcing the approach of a cavalry force on the Reisterstown road.—Through some parts of the city the cry "To Arms! To Arms!" was sounded, and men with muskets in their hands were seen running to and fro, and rapidly assembling at the points of rendezvous.

In a half hour several thousands were in arms and the headquarters of General Schenck was surrounded by bristling bayonets. All soon became quiet in the city, and considerable enthusiasm but no panic prevailed.

Up to the time we go to press, however, no Confederates had appeared, and the alarm is presumed to have been occasioned by the near approach of a company of Confederate cavalry who were in the vicinity of the Pikesville Arsenal.

The number of citizens at the barricades last night was estimated at from five to seven thousand. All the military in the city were also called out and were under arms all night.—[Balt. Am.]

### THE SIEGE OF VICKSBURG.

MEMPHIS, June 26, via CAIRO, June 29.—Advices from General Grant's army up to noon of the 22d inst., say the siege is progressing vigorously.

On the 20th cannonading was kept up from morning till noon by the army and navy, but elicited no reply. A large number of buildings were destroyed, but beyond that it was not ascertained that much damage was done.

Deserters report that the Tennessee and Georgia troops are much dissatisfied and talk of refusing to fight longer. Johnston's movements are still wrapped in mystery. He was last reported moving south. His forces have all been withdrawn beyond the Big Black.

General Taylor is said to have hung all the Federal prisoners taken at Milliken's Bend.—Retaliatory measures will probably follow.

Very heavy rains have fallen in the vicinity. All the streams are overflowing, and very few movements on either side are made.

John Park, Conservative, was elected Mayor of Memphis yesterday.

WALNUT HILL, NEAR VICKSBURG, June 23.—The Confederates are in front of Sherman on the left. They came out of the works Monday night and temporarily drove the Federal pickets from the rifle-pits, but were driven back by the Federal batteries. It is thought they are feeling their way to cut out or send messengers in the melee.

There has been considerable firing along the lines to-day. Siege guns are arriving in large numbers. Ambulances were sent out for the wounded towards Jackson on Sunday. On the return to Big Black the bridges having been burned they turned back at Edwards's Station. No Confederate camps nearer than that point.

### LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamer Hecla, from Liverpool on the 16th, via Queenstown on the 17th inst., has arrived.

Mr. Bright argued in Parliament that freedom in the South would increase the produce of cotton.

The House of Commons had rejected the annual motion for a ballot, by thirty majority.

The Oldenburg brig Cero, which arrived at Gibraltar on the 11th instant, makes the following report:

"On the 18th of April we fell in with the Confederate steamer Florida. She ordered us to heave to, and take in five from on board of her. The Florida had 260 prisoners on board."

The Confederate loan was strong in consequence of the reiterated assertion of the relief of Vicksburg by the Confederates, and the sales were finally quoted at one per cent. discount.

Thus far 30 of "Scott's 900," who went out on Friday night and had the engagement on Saturday, have come in, leaving to be accounted for about 48. With Major Remington, Captain Campbell was the only officer that returned—the three Lieutenants being still out.

Edward Murphy, Mrs. Guin, and Miss Marie Powell were sent to Washington a few days ago by the provost marshal of the defences south of the Potomac, and committed by Captain Todd to the Old Capitol prison. Murphy was picked up near Fort Lyons. He claims to be from Fredericksburg, and says he has friends in Alexandria. Mrs. Guin claims a residence in lower Mississippi, and comes now to look for her husband, who, she says, was taken prisoner in the Chancellorsville fight. Miss Powell is from Fredericksburg.

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